

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides a method of proliferating a microorganism capable of degrading a hard-to-degrade organic compound, comprising proliferating at least one microorganism capable of degrading a hard-to-degrade organic compound selected from the group consisting of *Janibacter* genus, *Pseudomonas* genus, *Rhodococcus* genus, *Desulfomonile* genus, *Alcaligenes* genus, *Bacillus* genus, *Streptococcus* genus, *Acinetobacter* genus, *Achromobacter* genus, *Paracoccus* genus, *Rhodobacter* genus, *Rhodobacterium* genus, *Methylosinus* genus, *Mycobacterium* genus, *Nitrosomonas* genus, *Corynebacterium* genus, and Methanotrophs, in a culture medium containing both a substance capable of inducing the degradation capability of the microorganism and Fe ions, under inorganic conditions. The present invention also provides a method of degrading a hard-to-degrade organic compound by using a microorganism capable of degrading the hard-to-degrade organic compound, comprising a step of controlling the degradation capability of the microorganism by adjusting the concentration of Fe ions in the culture medium.